

Hampton Court Flower Show & East of England  
July 1-11, 2019

Horticultural Society of Maryland &  
Federated Garden Club of Maryland  
**2019 TOUR**

**Hampton Court Flower Show & East of  
England Garden Tour  
July 1-11, 2019**



We are continuing our series of garden intensive tours with a bang, starting with the Hampton Court Flower Show! We'll be traveling throughout the eastern and southern part of England – a mostly rural landscape dotted with market towns, cathedrals, picturesque villages, and home to some of the most fantastic gardens on the planet. We visit Chartwell (home of Winston Churchill), Beth Chatto's garden, Adrian Bloom's Bressingham Gardens, *bucket list* Old Vicarage of East Ruston, the Queen's country residence of Sandringham House, Great Dixter, Sissinghurst, and Sutton Hoo, one of Britain's most important archeological sites. The cobblestoned winding streets of Norwich and Bury St Edmonds are on our itinerary with nearby unique shopping. The 15<sup>th</sup> century Angel Hotel will be one of our hotel stays where Charles Dickens and other heads of state stayed. July is the perfect time to visit English gardens. Join us!

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Day 1- Monday July 1 Arrival in London  
on your own D

Arrive in London at Heathrow and make your way to our first tour hotel in Windsor. Early arrivals may wish to book a tour of **Windsor Castle** or explore the nearby **Savill Garden** in **Great Windsor Park**, one of the crown jewels of Britain's award-winning gardens, including ancient woodlands and forest trails. With Royal History spanning over 1,000 years, there is something for everyone to explore. Join the group at the hotel for our 'Welcome Dinner'.

Overnight: Windsor

Day 2-Tuesday July 2 Hampton Court  
Flower Show (RHS members day) B,D

Travel to the unforgettable **RHS Hampton Court Flower Show**, the world's largest. Marvel at the beautiful gardens showcasing the next big names in garden design. Watch celebrity gardener demonstrations and pick up tips on gardening in a changing climate. RHS (Royal Horticultural Society) member tickets will allow us to get in before the general public to avoid the crowds.

After a full day absorbing all the garden exhibits, we travel to Sevenoaks for our next four-star hotel in Kent and another group dinner in our riverside hotel.

Overnight: Sevenoaks, Kent

Day 3-Wednesday July 3 B, L

We board our coach after breakfast to visit **Chartwell**, the family home of Sir Winston Churchill. Discover Churchill's family life in the house and savor



**HAMPTON COURT PALACE**

incredible views and stunning color in the gardens. You may be able to spot the black swans that have been there since Churchill's time. A savory lunch is included at the Chartwell Landemare Café.

After lunch, move on to visit **Wakehurst Place Kew's Botanic Garden** in Sussex. Wakehurst is home to the National Collections of Birches, Hypericum, Southern Hemisphere Beeches, and Skimmia. Also, home to the **Millenium Seed Bank**, we will get a guided tour to understand its vital mission to conserve 25% of the world's plant species by 2020. The ornamental garden is in the Arts & Crafts style.

Overnight: Sevenoaks in Kent

Day 4-Thursday July 4 B, D

This morning visit crowd favorite, **Sissinghurst**, and see the famed white garden. A romantic garden with seasonal features throughout the year, this treasure is a magnificent example of 'English style' which has had an immense influence on garden design. Perhaps England's most famous

garden, created by Vita Sackville-West, Sissinghurst is a romantic garden with seasonal features.



**SISSINGHURST WHITE GARDEN**

Continue on to another favorite, **Great Dixter**, begun in 1910 by the late Christopher Lloyd, garden writer, who created one of the most experimental and ever-changing gardens of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. There are carpets of meadow flowers, dazzling mixed borders, and containers galore. There is always a chance of meeting head gardener, Fergus Garrett.

Overnight: Seven Oaks, Kent



**GREAT DIXTER**

Day 5-Friday July 5 B, L

Depart the hotel and continue to **RHS Garden Hyde Hall**. With sweeping panoramas and an iconic dry garden, where we will see newly installed Australian and New Zealand gardens, as well as the newly built visitor center and other developments. Ponds, rose borders, and island beds are also part of the attractions at this RHS Garden, which has had some major improvements in the past couple of years. Enjoy lunch at the Gardeners Rest restaurant.

In the afternoon, we visit **Beth Chatto's** Essex gravel garden. Beth was one of the first gardeners in England to promote the concept of a "dry" garden, converting the parking lot of her nursery into a show garden. She took an overgrown wasteland of brambles, parched gravel, and ditches, transforming it into the showpiece today. The other half of her garden has a small lake surrounded by water-loving plants.

Travel back to our new hotel in Bury St Edmunds stayed at by Charles Dickens and some free time to explore.

Overnight: Bury St Edmunds

Day 6-Saturday July 6 B, T

This morning, we change gears and visit **Sutton Hoo**, one of Britain's most important archeological sites, believed to be the final resting spot of Anglo-Saxon warrior king, Raedwald. Visit the Exhibition Hall and learn about the history of the Anglo-Saxons and this extraordinary site, including all 18 burial mounds.

Continue on to an afternoon tea in Dedham, John Constable Country. We will visit the village, shops, and enjoy an Afternoon Cream Tea (included) at the famous **Essex Rose Tea House** (owned by Tiptree) that is famous for their preserves.

Continue on to **Lavenham** where you can stroll the winding medieval streets and explore Kate Denton's 7 acre sculpture studio & garden, a short walk off of High St.

Overnight Bury St Edmunds

Day 7-Sunday July 7 B

This morning, depart Bury St Edmunds and visit **Bressingham Gardens**. First established by Alan Bloom in 1946, he was an internationally known plant expert, particularly in the field of hardy perennials. He laid out the Dell Garden with its well-known island beds. His son, Adrian Bloom, later laid out the Foggy Bottom Garden. There are now a total of 6 distinct gardens totaling over 17 acres. They are known for their 'Blooms

of Bressingham' plant introductions in the horticulture trade.

In the afternoon, taking a break from garden touring, we will enjoy a short cruise on the **Norfolk Broads**. Discover the diversity of this natural wildlife landscape accompanied by a full commentary from the skipper explaining the origins of the Broads, identifying points of interest along the way.



'BLOOMS OF BRESSINGHAM' ASTILBE 'SPRITE'

Continue to Norwich with some free time to explore independently. A medieval town, Norwich preserves many elements of its past with narrow winding lanes and the remains of city walls. The cathedral dates from the Norman period and its striking spire is the region's most prominent landmark.

Overnight: Norwich

Day 8-Monday July 8 B

A treat is in store when we visit the **Sandringham Estate**, the country retreat of the Queen. The house has

been the private home of four generations of British monarchs since 1862 and is set in extensive gardens. If the Queen is not in residence, we will explore the first floor of rooms before touring the gardens. Lunch will be available in the café (not included).

Continue this afternoon to one of the finest gardens in England - **The Old Vicarage at East Ruston**. A 20-acre private garden, located only 1½ miles from the coast, owners now open it on certain days for visits. The garden is divided into 'rooms' - each with a different theme and rare and unusual plants. If we have time, we will try to squeeze in a visit to **Blickling Hall** to enjoy the grand double herbaceous borders in the parterre garden.

Overnight: Norwich

#### Day 9- Tuesday July 9 (B, L)

Depart Norwich in the morning and return south for a brief visit to **Ely Cathedral**. Its size is accentuated by the flat fenlands within which the town lies. The cathedral dates from the 11<sup>th</sup> century and is distinguished by its unique timber framed octagonal tower.

We continue on to **The Gibberd Garden**, an outstanding example of 20<sup>th</sup> century garden design. An inspirational and fascinating garden created between 1957 and 1984, by Sir Frederick Gibberd, Master Planner of Harlow New Town and leading post-war architect, he incorporated sculpture and artifacts throughout this 9 acre garden. It has lawns, pools, streams, glades, a brookside walk, a wild garden, an

arboretum, and a moated castle with a drawbridge.

Later this afternoon, visit **Chenies Manor**, a 15<sup>th</sup> century Tudor manor house. Steeped in history, the Manor is set in Buckinghamshire's charming estate village of Chenies and overlooks the Chess Valley. The grounds boast award winning gardens as well as 13<sup>th</sup> Century features including a Medieval well, a dungeon, a priest hole, a sunken garden, white garden, rose border, physic garden, parterre, kitchen garden, and a penitential maze.



CHESS VALLEY

Overnight: London

#### Day 10-Wednesday July 10 B, D

On our final day in England, we arrive at **Arundel Castle** on England's southern coast. Set high on a hill in Sussex, this medieval castle, extensively rebuilt during the Victorian era, commands the landscape with magnificent views across the South downs and the River Arun. Enjoy lunch in the original castle servant's hall (not included).

Continue this afternoon for a visit to recently reopened and restored

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Leonardslee Lake & Gardens. Offering breathtaking views of the Sussex countryside including a series of lakes, two alpine greenhouses and an impressive rock garden built by the well-known Victorian landscape company James Pulham and Son. Wallabies roam the grounds and are the descendants of the original herd brought by Sir Edmund Loder in 1889. A miniature/dollhouse exhibit caps off this exciting visit.

Overnight London-Farewell dinner tonight.

### Day 10-Thursday July 11

After breakfast, we say goodbye to all our new friends



### TRAVEL ROUTE

### NITTY GRITTY:

#### **Our Tour Guide: Patricia Blain**

Patricia Blain will be our tour guide/manager for this tour. I've worked with Patricia on a number of tours and she is engaging, interesting, and always excited to share her love and passion for all things UK. Based in Scotland, Patricia is a member of the Scottish Tourist Guide Association (STGA), training manager of STGA and International Trainer for the World Federation of Tourist Guide Associations, and a member of the Federation of European Guides, Patricia has an intimate knowledge of the history and culture of the British Isles. We are very lucky to have her as our tour guide!

#### **Tour Planner, Administrator & Escort: Claire Jones**

A past Director of Federated GC of MD, Claire Jones, has been planning garden trips for four years, and is an avid garden traveler with a library of over 100,000 images of gardens around the world. A photographer, landscape designer, and garden blogger at [TheGardenDiaries](http://TheGardenDiaries), Claire loves to travel anywhere that there are gardens and interesting sights. Contact Claire at [ijonesb1@comcast.net](mailto:ijonesb1@comcast.net).

Tour Reservations Will Be Accepted On-Line at [ijonesb1@comcast.net](mailto:ijonesb1@comcast.net) Until April 30, 2019

**Included:**-11days, 10 nights lodging 4 star hotels

-All breakfasts, 3 lunches, 4 dinners, 1 traditional afternoon tea

-Coach services (bus) for duration of tour

-Entrances to the following:

Chartwell, Wakehurst Place, Sissinghurst, Great Dixter, Beth Chatto Garden, RHS Hyde Hall, Sutton Hoo, Bressingham Gardens, Sandringham Estate, East

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Ruston, Blickling Estate, Ely Cathedral,  
Gibberd Garden, Chenies Manor, Arundel  
Castle, Leonardslee Lakes & Gardens

-Norfolk Broads Cruise

-Guided tours of Wakehurst Place and  
Bressingham Gardens

-Day ticket to Hampton Court Flower Show  
(members day)

-Services of a UK tour manager throughout  
(Patricia Blain)

-Porterage of 1 suitcase per person

**Not Included:**

-Personal Expenses

-Gratuities to drivers, tour guide

-Air Fare

-Meals not listed

[Pathfinders](#), our tour operator will have  
**some** transportation to and from Heathrow/  
London airport arranged if most people are  
arriving/departing together.

Price:

The tour is set at a minimum of 15  
participants. Prices are in Great Britain  
Pounds (£) with U.S. (\$) Estimates (Sept  
2018)

Per Person Sharing	Single Rate
A Double Room	<b>GBP £600 US \$780</b>
<b>GBP £ 2,900 US \$3,729 (Sept 2018)</b>	

Because the tour is priced in GBP but will  
be invoiced to you in dollars, the estimated  
US price may change depending on the  
currency exchange rate at the time the final  
payment is made to the agent (Pathfinders)

### Tour Conditions & Other Information

**Acceptance of your tour reservation:** Tour  
reservations are processed in the order  
received. You will be notified by your tour escort  
Claire Jones once your reservation has been  
accepted.

**Participants:**

The tours are designed for a minimum of 15  
participants, If the tour does not fill to the  
minimum, there is a supplemental charge per  
person. If this situation occurs, registrants will be  
advised of the change in pricing and will have  
the opportunity to reconsider their tour  
application. Please do not book any non-  
refundable airfare until you have been notified  
by your tour escort.

Deposit: \$200 deposit to hold your spot, which is  
a good faith deposit which will be refunded once  
the tour commences. This payment is not  
applied to your final payment as it is refunded.

The agent/company for this tour is  
Pathfinder's/STITA tours of Cheltenham, UK.  
Claire Jones acts only as representative for the

tour participant with respect to communications  
with the agent.

Your deposit and final payment can be made by  
credit card (3% fee) or a wire transfer to Lloyds  
Bank (details will be given). Also, Transferwise,  
an online bank transfer company is another  
option that I use (fees are less).

**Tour participants must be physically and  
mentally fit.** The success of any tour depends  
on each person's ability to participate and to  
cooperate with other tour members and with the  
tour escort. At times, this tour is moderately  
physically demanding, involving walking several  
miles over the day and getting in and out of a  
bus.

Hotels: Christopher Wren Hotel, Windsor  
Donnington Manor Hotel, Sevenoaks  
Angel Hotel, Bury St Edmunds  
Maid's Head Hotel, Norwich  
Clayton Hotel, Chiswick

# Hampton Court Flower Show & East of England Trip

**July 1-11, 2019**

**Co-Sponsored by Horticultural Society of MD & Federated Garden Clubs of MD**

## Travel Information Form

<b>Personal Information</b>	
<b>Full Traveler name Must match passport</b>	
<b>E-mail</b>	
<b>Passport Issuing Authority</b>	
<b>Passport Number</b>	
<b>Passport Expiration Date</b>	
<b>Street address w/city, state, and zip</b>	
<b>Emergency Contact Name &amp; Phone Number</b>	
<b>Type of Room Requested</b>	
<b>If TWIN, provide name of roommate</b>	
<b>How Did You Hear About This Tour?</b>	
<p><b>To Reserve a Space, a \$200 Deposit made out to Claire Jones is required which will be refunded to you at the start of the trip; If you cancel, the deposit will be retained, unless another participant is found to take your place. Mail deposit to Claire Jones, 4 Bellclare Cir, Sparks, MD 21152</b></p> <p>Airfare is not included in the price of this tour. Each participant will need to make their own airline reservation to arrive in London. If you want to arrive earlier and/or leave later, arrangements can be made with Pathfinders to stay extra nights. Please <i>Do Not</i> make your airline reservations until the Organizer has guaranteed (by email) that the tour will proceed.</p> <p><b>Important Dates: 10% Due by April 1, 2019 to Pathfinders (Ros) at 877-753-6386- Toll free number, +5 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time</b></p> <p><b>Final Payment Due by May 18, 2019 to Pathfinders at 877-753-6386</b></p>	

**Terms & Conditions**

Each tour is guaranteed to proceed as soon as the minimum of 15 reservations has been met. In the event that our reservation minimum is not met by April 1, 2019, the Organizer reserves the right to cancel the tour. Deposits/payments will be refunded in full if the tour is canceled.

**Price:** Published tour prices are based upon current exchange rates, tariffs and taxes. Fluctuations in these rates could result in a price adjustment without prior notice until the tour is paid in full. Once the price for the tour is paid in full, the fee will not be adjusted due to any later change in exchange rates, tariffs or taxes.

**Changes in itinerary details:** The Organizer and Pathfinders strive to operate according to our published itinerary. However, in the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond our control or opportunities that would enhance the itinerary, adjustments may be necessary or appropriate. The Organizer and Pathfinders reserve the right, without penalty, to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their judgment, conditions warrant or if they deem it necessary for the comfort, convenience, or safety of participants. The Organizer will let you know about any important changes when you make your reservation. If you have already made your reservation, the Organizer will let you know as soon as we can if there is time before your departure.

All tours, trip and arrangements made by Sponsoring organizations and individuals are for the convenience and pleasure of those who elect to participate. Sponsoring organizations and individuals organizing the tours, trips, and arrangements do not assume responsibility for the well-being or safety of the participant(s), tour arrangements, or property in any matters pertaining to the Hampton Court Flower Show and East of England Tour.

**Travel Protection Insurance is highly recommended and is not provided under this agreement.**

In consideration for participation in this activity, on behalf of myself and next of kin, heirs, and representatives, I release from all liability the Sponsors, employees, officers, volunteers and agents of Sponsors, as well as Claire Jones (Organizer) from any and all claims, including claims of negligence, from any injury, damages or emotional loss due to my participation in the Activity, including travel to, from, and during the Activity.

I agree to hold harmless the Sponsors, individuals and Organizer from any and all claims, including attorney's fees, or damage to my personal property that may occur as a result of participation in this Activity. If I need medical treatment, I assume financial responsibility for any costs incurred as a result of such treatment. I am aware and understand I should carry my own health insurance.

claims. I am assuming all risks of participating in this Activity, including travel to, from and during the Activity.

Participant  
signature\_\_\_\_\_

Participant Name & Date  
(Print)\_\_\_\_\_

I am 18 years or older. I understand I am releasing the Sponsors, individuals, and Organizer from any liability, as well as hold the same parties harmless from any and all